

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A sports shoe insert, comprising:  
an anisotropic bending element comprising  
at least one reinforcing layer I, each of which contains a fibrous reinforcing component I with a tensile modulus of elasticity in a range of from 1,800 to 20,000 N/mm<sup>2</sup>; and  
at least one elastomeric layer II, each of which contains an elastomer and has a tensile modulus of elasticity in a range of from 2 to 1,300 N/mm<sup>2</sup>, wherein  
a weight ratio in the bending element of the fibrous reinforcing component I to the elastomer is in a range of from 1:99 to 40:60; and  
when the bending element is bent about an axis parallel to the reinforcing layer I, a ratio of a rigidity of the bending element in a positive direction of rotation relative to a rigidity of the bending element in a negative direction of rotation is 1: 1.2 or more;  
wherein said bending element is configured to be insertable into a sports shoe.

2. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the ratio of a rigidity of the bending element in a positive direction of rotation relative to a rigidity of the bending element in a negative direction of rotation is in a range of from 1:1.2 to 1:6.

3. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the ratio of a rigidity of the bending element in a positive direction of rotation relative to a

rigidity of the bending element in a negative direction of rotation is in a range of from 1:1.5 to 1:5.

4. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the ratio of a rigidity of the bending element in a positive direction of rotation relative to a rigidity of the bending element in a negative direction of rotation is in a range of from 1:1.8 to 1:3.

5. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the fibrous reinforcing component I comprises reinforcing fibers each having a diameter in a range of from 0.0001 mm to 2 mm.

6. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert claimed in Claim 5, wherein the reinforcing fibers comprise a material selected from the group consisting of cotton, rayon, polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyamide, aramid, polyacrylonitrile, carbon, boron, steel and glass.

7. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert claimed in Claim 1, wherein the elastomer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of an unvulcanized rubber, a vulcanized rubber and a thermoplastic elastomer.

8. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert claimed in Claim 1, wherein the elastomer comprises the unvulcanized rubber; and the unvulcanized rubber comprises a material selected from the group consisting of styrene-butadiene rubbers, butadiene rubber, isoprene rubber, natural rubber, isobutene-

isoprene rubber, nitrile rubber, chloroprene rubber, ethylene-propylene rubber (EPM), ethylene-propylene-diene rubber (EPDM) and mixtures thereof.

9. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the elastomer comprises the vulcanized rubber; and

the vulcanized rubber is produced by vulcanizing an unvulcanized rubber comprising a material selected from the group consisting of styrene-butadiene rubbers, butadiene rubber, isoprene rubber, natural rubber, isobutene-isoprene rubber, nitrile rubber, chloroprene rubber, ethylene-propylene rubber (EPM), ethylene-propylene-diene rubber (EPDM) and mixtures thereof.

10. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert claimed in Claim 1, wherein the elastomer comprises the thermoplastic elastomer; and

the thermoplastic elastomer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of polyether ester amides, polyether amides, polyether esters, mixtures of ethylene-propylene rubber (EPM) and a polyolefin, mixtures of ethylene-propylene-diene rubber (EPDM) and a polyolefin, styrene-butadiene block copolymers, thermoplastic polyurethanes and mixtures thereof .

11. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert claimed in Claim 1, wherein each of the at least one elastomeric layer II adheres directly to one or more of the at least one reinforcing layer I.

12. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising an adhesive layer between one of the at least one elastomeric layer II and one of the at least one reinforcing layer I.

13. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert claimed in Claim 1, wherein the at least one reinforcing layer I consists of a single reinforcing layer I; and the at least one elastomeric layer II consists of a single elastomeric layer II.

14. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert claimed in Claim 1, wherein the at least one elastomeric layer II comprises two elastomeric layers II; and the at least one reinforcing layer I comprises a reinforcing layer I between and arranged off-center of the two elastomeric layers II.

15. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert claimed in Claim 1, wherein the at least one reinforcing layer I comprises a first reinforcing layer I and a second reinforcing layer I;

the at least one elastomeric layer II comprises a first elastomeric layer II and a second elastomeric layer II; and

the first reinforcing layer I, the first elastomeric layer II, the second reinforcing layer I, and the second elastomeric layer II are arranged in this order in the bending element.

Claims 16-20 (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The sport shoe insert as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said sports shoe is a soccer boot.

22. (Currently Amended) A paddle sports equipment, comprising:

an anisotropic bending element comprising

at least one reinforcing layer I, each of which contains a fibrous reinforcing component I with a tensile modulus of elasticity in a range of from 1,800 to 20,000 N/mm<sup>2</sup>; and

at least one elastomeric layer II, each of which contains an elastomer and has a tensile modulus of elasticity in a range of from 2 to 1,300 N/mm<sup>2</sup>, wherein

a weight ratio in the bending element of the fibrous reinforcing component I to the elastomer is in a range of from 1:99 to 40:60; and

when the bending element is bent about an axis parallel to the reinforcing layer I, a ratio of a rigidity of the bending element in a positive direction of rotation relative to a rigidity of the bending element in a negative direction of rotation is 1: 1.2 or more;

wherein said bending element is configured to be part of the paddle.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) A prosthesis, comprising:

an anisotropic bending element comprising

at least one reinforcing layer I, each of which contains a fibrous reinforcing component I with a tensile modulus of elasticity in a range of from 1,800 to 20,000 N/mm<sup>2</sup>; and

at least one elastomeric layer II, each of which contains an elastomer and has a tensile modulus of elasticity in a range of from 2 to 1,300 N/mm<sup>2</sup>, wherein

a weight ratio in the bending element of the fibrous reinforcing component I to the elastomer is in a range of from 1:99 to 40:60; and

when the bending element is bent about an axis parallel to the reinforcing layer I, a ratio of a rigidity of the bending element in a positive direction of rotation relative to a rigidity of the bending element in a negative direction of rotation is 1: 1.2 or more;

wherein said bending element is configured to be part of the prosthesis.

25. (New) The paddle as claimed in Claim 22, wherein the ratio of a rigidity of the bending element in a positive direction of rotation relative to a rigidity of the bending element in a negative direction of rotation is in a range of from 1:1.2 to 1:6.

26. (New) The paddle as claimed in Claim 22, wherein the ratio of a rigidity of the bending element in a positive direction of rotation relative to a rigidity of the bending element in a negative direction of rotation is in a range of from 1:1.5 to 1:5.

27. (New) The paddle as claimed in Claim 22, wherein the ratio of a rigidity of the bending element in a positive direction of rotation relative to a rigidity of the bending element in a negative direction of rotation is in a range of from 1:1.8 to 1:3.

28. (New) The paddle as claimed in Claim 22, wherein the fibrous reinforcing component I comprises reinforcing fibers each having a diameter in a range of from 0.0001 mm to 2 mm.

29. (New) The paddle as claimed in Claim 28, wherein the reinforcing fibers comprise a material selected from the group consisting of cotton, rayon, polyethylene

terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyamide, aramid, polyacrylonitrile, carbon, boron, steel and glass.

30. (New) The paddle as claimed in Claim 22, wherein the elastomer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of an unvulcanized rubber, a vulcanized rubber and a thermoplastic elastomer.

31. (New) The paddle as claimed in Claim 22, wherein  
the elastomer comprises the unvulcanized rubber; and  
the unvulcanized rubber comprises a material selected from the group consisting of styrene-butadiene rubbers, butadiene rubber, isoprene rubber, natural rubber, isobutene-isoprene rubber, nitrile rubber, chloroprene rubber, ethylene-propylene rubber (EPM), ethylene-propylene-diene rubber (EPDM) and mixtures thereof.

32. (New) The paddle as claimed in Claim 22, wherein  
the elastomer comprises the vulcanized rubber; and  
the vulcanized rubber is produced by vulcanizing an unvulcanized rubber comprising a material selected from the group consisting of styrene-butadiene rubbers, butadiene rubber, isoprene rubber, natural rubber, isobutene-isoprene rubber, nitrile rubber, chloroprene rubber, ethylene-propylene rubber (EPM), ethylene-propylene-diene rubber (EPDM) and mixtures thereof.

33. (New) The paddle as claimed in Claim 22, wherein  
the elastomer comprises the thermoplastic elastomer; and

the thermoplastic elastomer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of polyether ester amides, polyether amides, polyether esters, mixtures of ethylene-propylene rubber (EPM) and a polyolefin, mixtures of ethylene-propylene-diene rubber (EPDM) and a polyolefin, styrene-butadiene block copolymers, thermoplastic polyurethanes and mixtures thereof .

34. (New) The paddle as claimed in Claim 22, wherein each of the at least one elastomeric layer II adheres directly to one or more of the at least one reinforcing layer I.

35. (New) The paddle as claimed in Claim 22, further comprising an adhesive layer between one of the at least one elastomeric layer II and one of the at least one reinforcing layer I.

36. (New) The paddle as claimed in Claim 22, wherein  
the at least one reinforcing layer I consists of a single reinforcing layer I; and  
the at least one elastomeric layer II consists of a single elastomeric layer II.

37. (New) The paddle as claimed in Claim 22, wherein  
the at least one elastomeric layer II comprises two elastomeric layers II; and  
the at least one reinforcing layer I comprises a reinforcing layer I between and  
arranged off-center of the two elastomeric layers II.

38. (New) The paddle as claimed in Claim 22, wherein  
the at least one reinforcing layer I comprises a first reinforcing layer I and a second  
reinforcing layer I;



the at least one elastomeric layer II comprises a first elastomeric layer II and a second elastomeric layer II; and

the first reinforcing layer I, the first elastomeric layer II, the second reinforcing layer I, and the second elastomeric layer II are arranged in this order in the bending element.

39. (New) The prosthesis as claimed in Claim 24, wherein the ratio of a rigidity of the bending element in a positive direction of rotation relative to a rigidity of the bending element in a negative direction of rotation is in a range of from 1:1.2 to 1:6.

40. (New) The prosthesis as claimed in Claim 24, wherein the ratio of a rigidity of the bending element in a positive direction of rotation relative to a rigidity of the bending element in a negative direction of rotation is in a range of from 1:1.5 to 1:5.

41. (New) The prosthesis as claimed in Claim 24, wherein the ratio of a rigidity of the bending element in a positive direction of rotation relative to a rigidity of the bending element in a negative direction of rotation is in a range of from 1:1.8 to 1:3.

42. (New) The prosthesis as claimed in Claim 24, wherein the fibrous reinforcing component I comprises reinforcing fibers each having a diameter in a range of from 0.0001 mm to 2 mm.

43. (New) The prosthesis as claimed in Claim 42, wherein the reinforcing fibers comprise a material selected from the group consisting of cotton, rayon, polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyamide, aramid, polyacrylonitrile, carbon, boron, steel and glass.

44. (New) The prosthesis as claimed in Claim 24, wherein the elastomer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of an unvulcanized rubber, a vulcanized rubber and a thermoplastic elastomer.

45. (New) The prosthesis as claimed in Claim 24, wherein  
the elastomer comprises the unvulcanized rubber; and  
the unvulcanized rubber comprises a material selected from the group consisting of styrene-butadiene rubbers, butadiene rubber, isoprene rubber, natural rubber, isobutene-isoprene rubber, nitrile rubber, chloroprene rubber, ethylene-propylene rubber (EPM), ethylene-propylene-diene rubber (EPDM) and mixtures thereof.

46. (New) The prosthesis as claimed in Claim 24, wherein  
the elastomer comprises the vulcanized rubber; and  
the vulcanized rubber is produced by vulcanizing an unvulcanized rubber comprising a material selected from the group consisting of styrene-butadiene rubbers, butadiene rubber, isoprene rubber, natural rubber, isobutene-isoprene rubber, nitrile rubber, chloroprene rubber, ethylene-propylene rubber (EPM), ethylene-propylene-diene rubber (EPDM) and mixtures thereof.

47. (New) The prosthesis as claimed in Claim 24, wherein  
the elastomer comprises the thermoplastic elastomer; and  
the thermoplastic elastomer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of polyether ester amides, polyether amides, polyether esters, mixtures of ethylene-propylene rubber (EPM) and a polyolefin, mixtures of ethylene-propylene-diene rubber (EPDM) and a

polyolefin, styrene-butadiene block copolymers, thermoplastic polyurethanes and mixtures thereof .

48. (New) The prosthesis as claimed in Claim 24, wherein each of the at least one elastomeric layer II adheres directly to one or more of the at least one reinforcing layer I.

49. (New) The prosthesis as claimed in Claim 24, further comprising an adhesive layer between one of the at least one elastomeric layer II and one of the at least one reinforcing layer I.

50. (New) The prosthesis as claimed in Claim 24, wherein  
the at least one reinforcing layer I consists of a single reinforcing layer I; and  
the at least one elastomeric layer II consists of a single elastomeric layer II.

51. (New) The prosthesis as claimed in Claim 24, wherein  
the at least one elastomeric layer II comprises two elastomeric layers II; and  
the at least one reinforcing layer I comprises a reinforcing layer I between and  
arranged off-center of the two elastomeric layers II.

52. (New) The prosthesis as claimed in Claim 24, wherein  
the at least one reinforcing layer I comprises a first reinforcing layer I and a second  
reinforcing layer I;  
the at least one elastomeric layer II comprises a first elastomeric layer II and a second  
elastomeric layer II; and

the first reinforcing layer I, the first elastomeric layer II, the second reinforcing layer I, and the second elastomeric layer II are arranged in this order in the bending element.

**BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT**

Claims 1, 22 and 24 have been amended as supported by these claims as originally filed.

New Claims 25-52 have been added as supported by Claims 2-15 as originally filed.

No new matter is believed to have been added by entry of this amendment. Entry and favorable reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment Claims 1-15, 21-22 and 24-52 will now be active in this application.